



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of :

Naoto MIWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1617

Serial No.: 09/787,394

Examiner: Shahnam J. Sharareh

Filed: March 19, 2001

For: NEAR INFRARED FLUORESCENT CONTRAST AGENT AND  
FLUORESCENCE IMAGING

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of September 24, 2002, Applicants hereby elect the compound of claim 17. Claims readable on this species include 1-11, 13, 17, 21-34. This election is made with traverse because the Examiner has not established that any undue searching burden would be involved in searching the full scope of the claims.

No fee is believed to be due with this response, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Anthony J. Zelano, 27,969  
Attorney/Agent for Applicants

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Attorney Docket No.: SCH-1799  
Date: October 24, 2002